



On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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Gallaudet gets 2.6 million dollar grant for Health Careers Opportunities Program in Deafness

Thanks to a 2.6 million dollar grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, Gallaudet has established a Health Careers Opportunities Program (HCOP) in Deafness to assist pre-college, college, and graduate students who are interested in working with deaf and hard of hearing clients, and who come from economically or educationally disadvantaged backgrounds.

The HCOP co-directors are Dr. Charlene Sorensen, associate professor of chemistry, and Dr. Virginia Gutman, a professor in the Psychology Department. Emily Summerlot is the program coordinator.

The long-term goals of the program, according to Sorensen, are to "improve access to services for deaf and hard of hearing individuals nationwide who currently have difficulty obtaining high quality health, mental health, and allied health services."

Another goal of the program, said Gutman, is "to provide a range of educational support and enrichment services to students in training (or in the educational pipeline) to become highly qualified, culturally sensitive professionals serving deaf and hard of hearing clients in communities throughout the United States."

The professional fields in the HCOP program are: clinical psychology, social work, counseling, audiology, and speech-language pathology.

The long-term goal of the program is to help deaf students in the community even if they don't come to Gallaudet, said Gutman. For example, an individual can go to any high school, train under the program, and then go to another

university.

The Health Resources and Services Administration's Bureau of Health Professions in the Department of Health and Human Services awarded the grant as part of their goal to develop a more culturally diverse work force, including employees from the deaf community.

Participants in the program will take part in summer programs and/or year-round mentoring and career development activities. Students without requisite sign language skills have the opportunity to increase their skills during the summer programs, and all participants are involved in cultural and language training skills.

The program is an interagency and multi-disciplinary project involving cooperation among Gallaudet graduate and undergraduate programs, Deaf-Reach, the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center, and the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association. The grant would not have been possible without the assistance of Stanley Matelski III, director of Sponsored Programs, and Christine Katsapis, grants specialist for Sponsored Programs.

The five-year grant began September 1. The program directors will apply for a continuation of support after 2005. For more information on the program, call x5206 (V/TTY) or e-mail the HCOP Office at hcop.office@gallaudet.edu



During the April 8 Charter Day celebration, the Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association unveiled the plaques that have now been placed on the four houses that comprise Faculty Row: EMG Residence, Ballard, Fay, and Denison Houses. Four LCCF members dressed in the times of the 1880s are (from left): Mike Olson, '79, Dr. Arlene (Blumenthal) Kelly, '77, Lynn Sterling, '77, and Deb Barron, '81.

Appreciation of Gallaudet history inspires alumni and guests on Charter Day

Charter Day, which celebrates the signing of Gallaudet's charter by President Abraham Lincoln on April 8, 1864, was observed on April 7 in the Peikoff Alumni House. The Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund (LCCF) Committee and the Office of Alumni Relations sponsored the 32nd annual Charter Day Luncheon and Awards Program. Dr. Glenn Anderson, chair of the Board of Trustees, served as master of ceremonies.

Louis Val's handcrafted replica of the Peikoff Alumni House was unveiled prior to presentations of six awards. Pauline "Polly" Peikoff and President I. King Jordan joined Val to unveil the beautiful model, which is on display in the Alumni House lobby.

The GUAA Outstanding Young Alumnus Award was presented to Steven Hardy-Braz, G-'91, of North Carolina. He maintains a practice in school psychology and is on contract with local schools on the assessment of psychological and other evaluations of students with and without sensory and/or learning disabilities. He has coordinated a training seminar on the revision of a psychological test traditionally used with deaf and hard of hearing students.

The GUAA Pauline "Polly" Peikoff, E-'36, "Service to Others" Award was given to Julian "Buddy" Singleton, AAS-'58, of California. A retired graphic arts teacher, he is highly respected and in great demand for his extensive community service to deaf and hard of hearing people, and leadership with numerous local, state, and national organizations for deaf people. In his current position as president of the Deaf Senior Retirement Corporation, Singleton is actively involved with the Deaf Senior

Housing Project Committee.

The LCCF Laurent Clerc Award, which is presented to a deaf person for outstanding social contributions, went to Dr. Frank Lala of California. Lala has written many publications in the field of deafness with a particular emphasis on counseling deaf substance abusers. He has helped countless individuals regain their health at Hazelden, a distance-learning center for addiction studies. He has proposed that addiction studies cover mandatory coursework in the training needed to work with alcohol and drug abusers who are deaf.

The LCCF Alice Cogswell Award for valuable service on behalf of deaf people was presented to Walter Camenisch III, '71, of Texas. Camenisch's determination to enforce the provisions of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act opened the doors to colleges and universities across the country for deaf and hard of hearing. While he was the dean of students, and later principal, at the Texas School for the Deaf, he was the driving force behind the hiring of over 200 deaf people at the school.

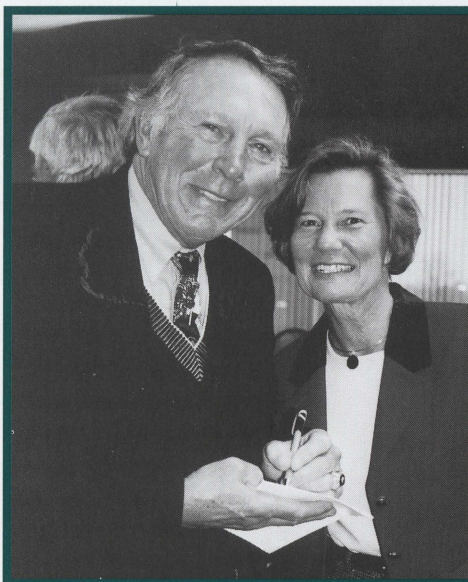
The Edward Miner Gallaudet Award for recognition of international or nation leaders for promoting the well-being of deaf people around the world was given to Fanny Yeh Corderoy du Tiers, '71, of France. She plays many roles—ambassador, lecturer, leader, dancer, actress, and program developer. Corderoy du Tiers is a dynamic deaf leader and persuasive advocate who has succeeded in uniting associations, clubs, and theaters. She focuses international attention on encouraging French deaf people to become leaders.

The LCCF Amos Kendall

continued on page 3



A team of evaluators from the Commission on Higher Education, Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA) was on campus April 8-11 to review the University's programs as part of its 10-year reaccreditation process, which is expected to be completed this summer. Gallaudet was first accredited by MSA in 1957. The team members are (from left): Dr. Diann Showell, University of Maryland, Eastern Shore; Dr. Barbara Sadowski, Marywood University, Scranton, Pa.; Thomas Elzey, Howard University, Washington, D.C.; Susan Ikerd, Converse College, Spartanburg, S.C.; Dr. Earl Richardson, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Md.; Dr. Peter Bailey, St. Lawrence University, Canton, N.Y.; Dr. James DeCaro, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, N.Y.; and Dr. Alan Marvelli, Smith College, Northampton, Mass.



Brooks Robinson, former Baltimore Orioles third baseman and Hall of Fame member, gives his autograph to Miriam Skagg, granddaughter-in-law of William "Dummy" Hoy at the dedication of the University's Hoy Baseball Field on April 8.



ASK AUNT SOPHIE

Dear Aunt Sophie,

With the reorganization of several departments and divisions on campus, reshuffling of offices and employees, we would like at this time to address the issue of cooperation.

In the last several months, change has been thrust upon many of us, which impacts the entire University. Our concern is the delivery of campus mail and its distribution, especially time-sensitive materials that are not delivered on the date stipulated.

On several occasions, this issue has been addressed but no resolution was reached. We can understand that the job might be too big for the number of staff assigned, however, it seems that time management and a little more attention to the job at hand might be a possible solution.

Please let us know what is the best way to handle this type of situation without getting anyone annoyed.

All of Us

Dear All of You,

This is not about "getting anyone annoyed." This is about improving the way we do things around here, should they need improvement, which Auntie can only hope is the shared goal of every inhabitant on our little island of academic bliss. While I have not experienced the undue delays with mail deliveries to which you

refer, I can certainly sympathize how they might cause one much frustration, stress and, in extreme cases, severe gastric discomfort. Thus, I shall bring your collective concerns to the highest authority, where I have confidence that the matter will be thoroughly reviewed and resolved.

Dear Aunt Sophie,

I have a suggestion for your Fiona the Fig Fan Club: "Never Fidgete."

How much are club dues?

David A., Library

Dear David,

What an absolutely splendid motto. I shall add it to the list, which includes this one from an anonymous fan: "Figue us, Fiona."

More on club dues and such at a later date.

Initiative launched to educate deaf, hard of hearing community about home ownership

Thanks to HomeFree USA, over 700 people have become home owners in the seven years since the non-profit, Department of Housing and Urban Development-approved organization was founded to educate aspiring home buyers about the rigorous, often daunting process. However, the organization's past efforts have not reached out to deaf and hard of hearing consumers.


That changed when an advertisement for a HomeFree USA seminar in home ownership was posted on the Gallaudet campus last November, and a deaf person showed up with a hearing friend. "That planted the idea," said Jackie Mann, a Gallaudet graduate student in the social work program who is a student intern for HomeFree USA along with Melinni Gramer, another social work graduate student. "We didn't even have an interpreter then, but this time we're prepared."

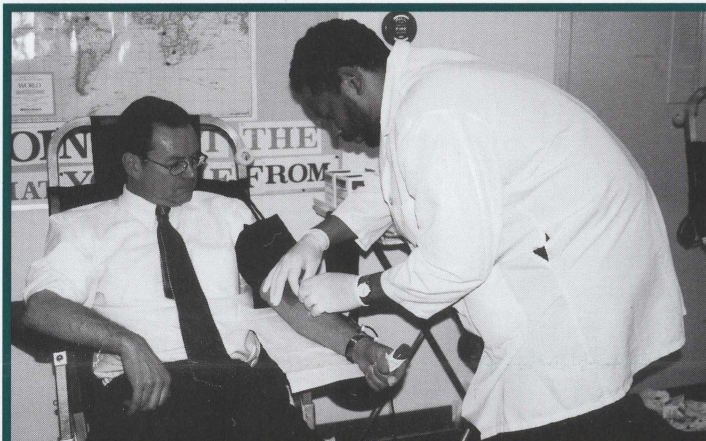
On April 25, Washington, D.C.-based HomeFree USA, with support from Long and Foster Companies, Chevy Chase Bank, Freddie Mac Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., and the D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development came to Gallaudet's 'Ole Jim' to launch an eight-month home ownership campaign aimed specifically at simplifying the home buying process for deaf and hard of hearing residents of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

Mann said that all clients receive a counselor who helps

them set up an individual achievement plan to reach their financial goal. They also get a mortgage advisor who assists them in finding a home, working with a realtor, getting loan approval, and closing on the deal. Clients are also asked to complete 10 hours of classes that HomeFree USA offers in the many aspects of real estate purchases. "Even though it's a tight (real estate) market, if you manage your money well, then there's something out there for anyone," said Mann.

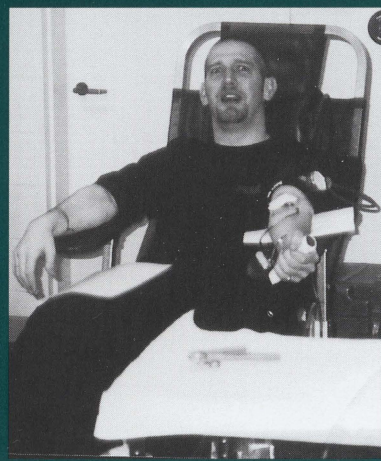
"... Many people who desire the security of owning a home are intimidated by the process. We want to remove as many obstacles as possible, particularly for the Deaf community," HomeFree USA President Marcia Griffin is quoted as saying in a press release announcing the campaign. Also quoted were Wes Foster, president of Long and Foster Real Estate, and Jan Maxwell, vice-president Community Reinvestment Act of Chevy Chase Bank. "This initiative is long overdue. The Deaf community is underserved largely because companies have neglected to make the necessary accommodations for outreach," said Foster. "We hope that others in the industry will take note of our efforts and follow suit in responding to the needs of the Deaf community," said Maxwell.

For more information about the program, call Mann at (202) 526-2000 (Voice) or Gramer at (202) 526-5150 (TTY). 



Vice President for Administration and Finance Paul Kelly watches as Charlton Harris, a nurse with the American Red Cross, draws his blood April 9 during the blood drive at Student Health Service. Kelly was among 35 members of the campus community who donated blood. According to Brandon Caesar, a RN with Student Health Service, "The Red Cross collected enough blood to benefit 96 people. The blood collected goes into a blood bank that supplies blood plasma, platelets, and whole blood products to clients between Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia, Pa."

At right, Graduate student Dana Arazi donates blood during the Graduate Student Association's February 5 blood drive. The graduate students donated 35 pints of blood, exceeding their goal of 26 pints.



If your department is receiving too few or too many copies of *On the Green*, please let us know. Call Roz Prickett at x5788 (V/TTY) or e-mail roz.prickett@gallaudet.edu.



Philip Bravin, Board of Trustees member and chief marketing officer of Communication Service for the Deaf, gave the address at the April 17 President's Scholars Dinner, which honors students with outstanding academic achievement. Bravin spoke about 10 key points for life based on the concepts in *Life's Little Instruction Books*. During the fall semester, 194 students made the Dean's List, which recognizes freshmen or sophomores with a 3.25 semester G.P.A. or juniors or seniors with a semester G.P.A. of 3.5 or above for the semester prior to the dinner. Seventy-one students were recognized as President's Cum Laude Scholars with a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.4. An additional 47 were magna cum laude scholars (G.P.A. 3.6-3.8), and 39 were summa cum laude scholars (G.P.A. 3.8 or higher). Ninety-seven graduate students were recognized as Graduate President's Scholars for having a G.P.A. of 3.85 after completing at least 30 hours of graduate coursework. A number of students were recognized both for making the Dean's List and as President's Scholars. At the dinner, Dr. Benjamin Bahan, chair of the Department of Deaf Studies, was also honored as the Distinguished Faculty Member of the Year.

Awards Day Winners listed on the web:

Numerous individuals were recognized for their accomplishments at Gallaudet's 2001 Awards Day program held April 18 in the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center. The recognitions included alumni scholarship presentations, awards from academic schools and department, student organization, and special honors. The entire list of awards and their winners can be found on *On the Green's* web site: <http://pr.gallaudet.edu/otg/>. Awards Day was sponsored by the Provost's Office.

The "Clerc Center Happenings" column was omitted from the April 6 issue of *On the Green*. To get the update—written by team captain and MSSD student Rob McConnell—on the MSSD team's win at the Mid-Atlantic Academic Bowl regional competition March 2 to 4, visit the *On the Green* website: <http://pr.gallaudet.edu/otg/2001/010406/010406-15.htm> Information about MSSD winning the championship on April 23 will appear in the May 18 issue of *On the Green*.



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Charter Day

continued from page 1

Award for notable excellence in a professional field not related to deafness was presented to Richard Dysart of California, a member of Gallaudet's Board of Trustees. The world has seen Dysart in movies and television shows, but when the curtain goes down, many members of the Gallaudet community have had the opportunity to see him as an unpretentious human being, a man with a hearing loss who is dedicated to serving others.

Alumni and guests also had an opportunity to watch four narrators' biographies about Dr.

Edward Miner Gallaudet, Melville Ballard, Helen Bradford Fay, and James Denison—four important individuals in the University's history whose names are now displayed on the four buildings that make up Faculty Row. Bronze wall plaques have been provided by the Gallaudet University Alumni Association's LCCF Committee through funds raised from sales of the Gallaudet Afghan. Four hundred ninety-nine limited edition afghans were sold in only five months. The last afghan will be used for a raffle drawing during Deaf Way II in July 2002. **G**



Provost Jane Fernandes (right) and Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Technologies Dean Jane Dillehay (left), joined by faculty nominators and First Year Studies Program staff, congratulate "Fantastic First Year Students" for the 2000-01 school year. These students' overall GPA average is 3.5. This award is given annually to these outstanding students by the First Year Studies Program after they have first been nominated by faculty and then reviewed by both their academic advisor and dorm staff. This year, 36 students were selected to receive this award—the highest number ever. To reward the students for this achievement, they were honored at a luncheon in the Conference Center on April 16.



WHAT'S HAPPENING... AND WHEN

May:

7-Final examination period ends

8-All grades due from faculty no later than 4 p.m.

10-Graduate Awards and Hooding Ceremony, 4 p.m., Elstad Auditorium, a reception on Kendall Green will follow the ceremony.

11-Commencement Brunch, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., University Dining Hall, tickets are available at the Cashier's Office, College Hall, Room B04, a limited number of tickets will be sold at the door; Commencement, 1 p.m.,

Field House, tickets are required, a reception on Kendall Green will follow the ceremony.

17-18-Annual MSSD spring production, *Tonight*. The musical, directed by MSSD senior Garret Bose, is an updated version of *Romeo and Juliet*, set against the backdrop of New York City warfare. *Tonight* will be performed at 8 p.m. in Theatre Malz. Tickets are \$5 for adults, and MSSD students with ID will be admitted free. For ticket reservations or more information, e-mail mssd-tickets@hotmail.com

Deaf Way II poster awarded; volunteer form now online

The Deaf Way II poster design has won an Award of Distinction in the Marketing/Promotion/Poster category from Communicator Awards. This national awards organization recognizes outstanding work in the communications field by advertising and public relations agencies, corporate communications departments, educational institutions, designers, video production professionals, and other businesses throughout the country.

There were more than 3,300 entries in The Communicator Awards 2001 Print Media competition. "I am thrilled that the Deaf Way II poster received this Award of Distinction," said Harvey Goodstein, chair of Deaf Way II. "It is enlightening to know that the

artistic work of this poster exceeds industry standards in communicating a message or idea."

In other news from Deaf Way II, the volunteer application form is now online. Anyone who wishes to volunteer their time and assistance during Deaf Way II should review the criteria on the Deaf Way II web site.

Also, in early May, Deaf Way II will announce a Call for Interpreters.

In March it was announced that the early registration deadline had been extended to September 30. In addition, Deaf Way II has extended the deadline for the Call for Conference Proposals to September 30 as well. Cultural arts proposals will have various

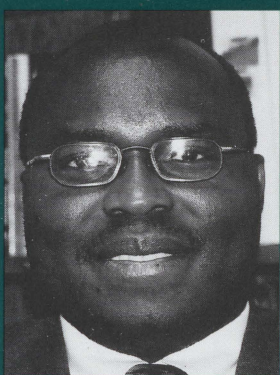
due dates. Consult the DWII Web site for information on about all deadlines.

Deaf Way II will be held in Washington, D.C., July 8 to 13, 2002. Complete information about Deaf Way II is available on the Web at www.deafway.org **G**

To view Gallaudet's commencement online, a standard web browser with Real Media Plug-ins will be required. To watch Commencement 2001 online, follow these two steps: At 12:40 p.m. (ET) on May 11, go to www.gallaudet.edu. Click on "Commencement Online."

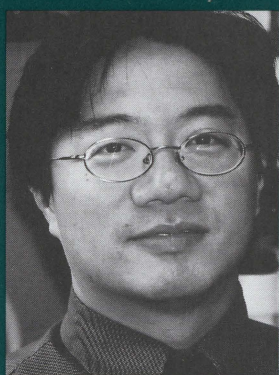
ROVING REPORTER

What advice do you have for the Class of 2001?



Simon Guteny, assistant professor, Education Department:

Remember to honor your creator; make learning your lifelong friend; and always strive for the best.



Arthur Lee, assistant professor, Computer Information Systems:

There is no shortcut to success. Be willing to invest your time and energy to achieve your goals.



Regina Church, speech/language pathologist, Audiology:

Life in the 'real world' will not always be easy. Do the best you can and remember that with each challenge comes personal growth. Your friends and family will always be there to support you. Best of Luck!



Sherry Duhan, assistant director, Alumni Relations:

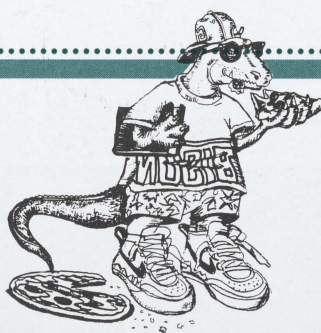
Be sure to give back to Gallaudet! Remember what it has done for you. Gallaudet will always be a part of your life. There will always be a home for you at Gallaudet, so stop by and visit from time to time.

AMONG OURSELVES

Losing a \$7,000 check that is endorsed and ready to be cashed could really ruin your day—unless the finder happens to be someone like **Roland Faulkner** or **George Gateau, Jr.** The two Gallaudet employees were on a job on the first floor of Carlin Hall when Faulkner, an electrician for Residential Services, spotted an object on the floor. He retrieved it and showed it to Gateau, supervisor of access control for DOSS. They discovered that it was a check, and promptly took it to DOSS. **Captain George Rountree** determined that the check was made out to a Gallaudet student. He located her dorm room and left a note on the door telling her that she could come to Security to reclaim her "personal belongings." The perplexed student later arrived at DOSS saying that she wasn't aware that she'd lost anything. Rountree then informed her about the recovered check.

Associate Director of Alumni Relations **Daphne McGregor's** twin 11-year-old daughters **Kristin** and **Amy** were quoted in an April 8 New York *Daily News* article about the inaugural season of the Women's United Soccer Association and the Washington, D.C., area's new women's professional soccer team, Washington Freedom. "It's cool that we get someone to look up to now instead of all the men," Kristin said. Her sister added, "If I can't make a game, it'll probably be because I have to play in one of my own soccer games."

Arlene Blumenthal Kelly, assistant professor in the Deaf Studies Department, successfully defended her dissertation, "How Deaf Women Construct Teaching, Language and Culture, and Gender: An Ethnographic Study of ASL Teachers," at the University of Maryland-College Park.



Chris Kaftan and his mom at Woodstock '99.

Stu • dent • sau • rus

(stōo • dant • soar • us) n. 1. a special breed of inquisitive men and women who Gallaudet recruits, retains, and educates. 2. pizza-eaters.

Chris Kaftan—he does it all!

He's from Woodstock, New York. Yes, that Woodstock! And yes, he has been to those crazy rock festivals they throw. But there is a lot more to Chris Kaftan than living in one of the main centers for the '60s hippie movement.

The newly-elected Student Body Government president has made his mark at Gallaudet by participating in a wealth of activities that will suit him well for his new position. Kaftan has been Greek Council president, Editor in Chief of the *Buff and Blue*, a Student Congress senator for three semesters, an officer for two years in his fraternity, a member of the College Bowl team, a residential advisor, a tutor, and served as vice president of University Affairs for the SBG for the past year.

Kaftan knows how difficult the job can be, and knows what he is getting into. But he is anxious to tackle the challenges that face him over the next year. "I saw first-hand as a freshman dorm RA this year how frustrated students, RAs, Campus Life, the administration, and DOSS are," said Kaftan. "I saw how these departments didn't always work with each other. I want to work on improving that."

Another of Kaftan's major goals for the upcoming year are to reach out to more students, especially non-traditional students who are not represented in the SBG or Student Congress by any organizations. "I want all the students to be involved with the daily decision-making process at Gallaudet," says Kaftan. "It is my hope that my cabinet will be diverse. Not only that, my cabinet will be the best in what they do."

Living in Woodstock had its advantages because some of the biggest names in music came to perform. Kaftan's mother was at the first Woodstock gathering in 1969. At the 25th anniversary in


1994, Kaftan volunteered backstage at the rain-soaked event. "It was a lot of fun," says Kaftan. "I saw lots of well known entertainers. I shook hands with the members of Nine-Inch Nails, who had mud all over them. Wow, Nine-Inch Nails got mud on my hands! How many people can say that?"

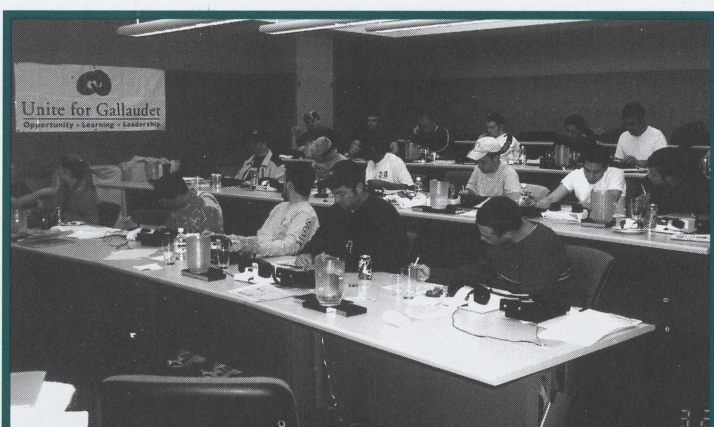
There were 300,000 people at the event, which the rain quickly turned into a mud pit. "A lot of people got their shoes stuck in the mud and just left them there and walked barefoot," said Kaftan.

At the Woodstock gathering in 1999, Kaftan went with his mom to enjoy the event together. "It was nice having mom with me, she was really happy to have her first-born son with her at a place where she had so many memories."

Kaftan loves to collect things. Two of his favorite collectibles are shot glasses and business cards. Kaftan has 144 shot glasses from Italy, Switzerland, Holland, England, and Germany, as well as from the United States. Kaftan started his business card collection last year. "I collect them from everyone, including members of the media who came to campus last year from the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, from TV stations, and other media outlets."

After graduating next year, Kaftan is thinking about applying to be a recruiter for the Admissions Office. His long-term goal is to become a high school history teacher.

But first, there is the SBG presidency to tackle. Kaftan knows from experience that the position can be a lot of fun, but also can entail a lot of stress and criticism. But he is ready for it. "I don't mind the criticism. I got lots of it as EIC of the *Buff and Blue*. I can't please everyone, but I will try my best to." 



With support from many student volunteers, including members of the Delta Epsilon sorority and Kappa Sigma fraternity, as well as several alumni, the 2001 spring TTY-A-Thon was the most successful yet for the Development Office. The March 25-28 event in the Conference Center raised over \$25,000 toward University projects, scholarships, and the new Student Academic Center. According to Christina Sigler, associate director of annual giving for the Development Office, "Increased alumni giving is one of the primary goals of the ongoing Unite for Gallaudet Capital Campaign. The amount of a gift is secondary. What matters is that alumni show their support on an annual basis." A total of 281 alumni chose to support Gallaudet. Of particular note are Eddy Laird and Kathleen Seymour, volunteers from the class of '75, who raised over \$10,000 from members of their class to sponsor a room in the new Student Academic Center. In the photo, student volunteers from Kappa Sigma hit the phones March 26 to solicit donations.

Two students awarded full scholarships to Gallaudet


Two high school seniors from the Midwest have been awarded full, four-year scholarships to Gallaudet. Tara Schupner, who attends Shawnee Mission East High School in Prairie Village, Kan., became the first student to accept an Edward Miner Gallaudet (EMG) Scholarship in February. A month later, Jonathan Henner, who is enrolled at John Hersey High School in Arlington Heights, Ill., also accepted the EMG Scholarship.

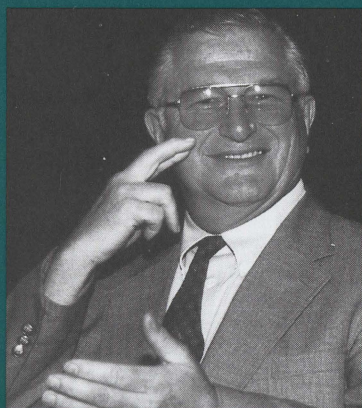
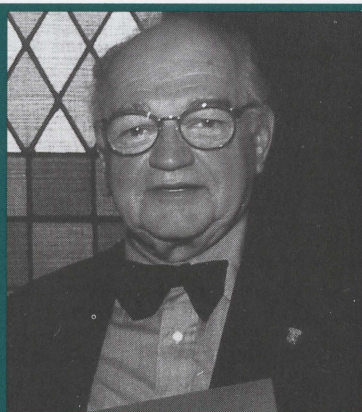
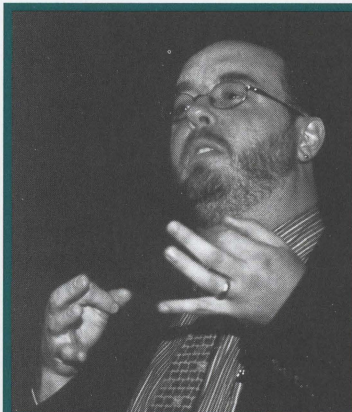
The new EMG Scholarship, which covers the recipients' tuition, course-related fees and

unit fees, and campus-based living expenses for four years, is a prestigious honor that recognizes new students who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement.

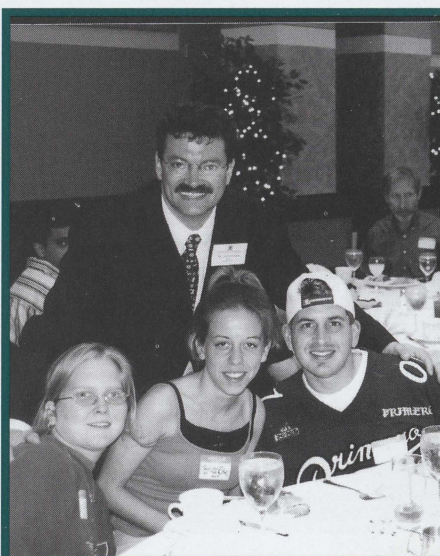
Schupner, who has been accepted directly into the Honors Program at Gallaudet for the 2001-02 academic year, has compiled a grade point average of 4.6 and ranks 14th in a class of 529 students. Obtaining this distinguished award is particularly gratifying for another reason, her mother said. Colette Schupner recalled that when her daughter was diagnosed as profoundly

deaf at one year of age, the audiologist told her and her husband, Ronald, that their daughter would probably graduate from high school with a fourth grade reading level and most likely find a low-level job. "We are quite happy that Tara has proved her audiologist wrong," she said.

Henner has a 4.7 G.P.A. In addition to academic pursuits, he is an active participant in extracurricular programs—track and field, football, wrestling, Debate Club, Student Council, Junior National Association of the Deaf, and the Deaf Academic Bowl team. 



Six awards were given at the April 7 Charter Day Annual Awards Program. The recipients (were from left) (TOP): Steven Hardy-Braz, G-'91, Richard Dysart, Fanny Yeh Corderoy du Tiers, '71, (BOTTOM) Dr. Frank Lala, Julian S. Singleton, AAS-'58, and Walter Camenisch III, '71.



Dean of Student Affairs Carl Pramuk poses for a photo with a few students who attended a special dinner for freshmen April 10 in the GUKCC. The purpose of the dinner was to congratulate students for getting through a particularly stressful and sad first year. They were invited to exchange e-mails throughout the summer with a faculty or staff person as a way of providing the students with a permanent link to Gallaudet.